

Martin County JOURNAL

Year 12, Issue 11

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 2021

Ten pages

Shoals School ready to go back full time

The Shoals School Board met March 11. Board members in attendance were Drexel Turpin, Eva George, Jenell Hoffman, Jerry Braun and Sam Boyd. Staff in attendance were Dr. Candace Roush, Amanda Heckard, Kindra Hovis, Austin Malone, Shannon Wagoner, and Reva Troutman. Patrons in attendance were Chris Scott and Lorna Troutman.

Chris Scott wanted to thank the board and the school for allowing his group, the Limestone Volleyball club, to use the gymnasium. He thanked Taylor Atkison for all her help at the school. He said she has done a tremendous job with the girls.

Lorna Troutman commented that FTC is now 2nd in the state.

The board approved the following personnel recommendations:

-Reva Troutman to cover Danielle Corbett's maternity leave and to serve as volunteer middle school track coach

-Kellie Shaw as volunteer volleyball coach

-April Sutton as middle school boys' track coach

-Eric Rasico as JV boys' track and varsity assistant track coach

-Jennifer Guinn as corporation librarian

-Carter Roush as substitute mower

-Chase Butler as a volunteer strength & conditioning coach

-Gavyn Doane as substitute teacher

-Chris Bauer as volunteer softball coach

-Sara Clark, Evan Stoll, and Sierra Rutledge as volunteers with JBL

-Misty McKibben for the special education teaching assistant position

-Sandra Hovis, Dennis Elliott and Catherine Hovis for the summer crew

-Miranda Albright, Ele Neally and Jennifer Wadsworth as summer crew substitutes

-Nici Key's resignation effective March 17, 2021

-Joni Brett's resignation from the cafeteria aide position

-Michael Fischer's resignation from the Criminal Justice position at the end of the 2020-2021 school year

The high school principal recommended the graduation date be set for May 29, 2021. The board approved.

Superintendent Roush recommended the high school students to return to five days per week beginning after Spring Break for the remainder of the year. The board approved.

The board approved summer school to run June 21-July 9.

The superintendent recommended the speech teacher bill Medicaid for student speech services starting with the 2021-2022 school year. The board approved.

The board approved the superintendent's recommendation for two welders in the shop room to be auctioned off with Graber Auctions.

The cafeteria received a donation from Knights of Columbus in memory of Fred M. Doyle Memorial. The board accepted the donation.

Superintendent Roush recommended Road Star Driving School to conduct driver education classes the summer of 2021 at the high school. The board approved.

The board approved Jon Perry to use the high school gym this Sunday to host AAU tryouts and the Lions Club to hold the annual easter egg hunt on Saturday, April 3 at 1 p.m.

Friends of Shoals Public Library requested to sell Zax Creamery Ice Cream at outdoor events this spring. The board approved.

(See 'SCHOOL' on page 2)

Shoals Town Council opens bids, discusses town beautification

The Shoals Town Council met Monday, March 8. Those in attendance were Council Members Cary D. Albright, Clint Hoffman, and Cecil Ragsdale; Clerk-Treasurer Sierra Rutledge, Town Attorney Dave Lett, Shoals Fire Chief Jim Hamby, Shoals Fire Assistant Chief Jeffery Dorsy, Beautification Board President Amber Hoffman, Beautification Board Vice President Tania Brown, Beautification Board Secretary Cristy Jenkins, Beautification Board Volunteer Annette Taylor, and Martin County Alliance for Economic Growth Director Angie Risacher.

Council Member Albright said he wanted to take the time to extend a huge thank you to more of the volunteers to include the Beautification Board for all of their hard work and efforts. Clerk-Treasurer Rutledge read aloud a certificate that was presented to each member on behalf of the members of the town board. Albright stated the board's volunteer work and efforts were outstanding.

Albright asked Attorney Lett to open the Springhill Cemetery mowing bids. Three bids were received and opened: Peace in the Storm Landscaping for \$39,400 for 2021 and 2022, Superior ProClean for \$24,300 for 2021 and 2022 with a fuel ex-

pense clause for a fuel price over \$3.00, Chases Lawn Care, LLC for \$23,000 for 2021 and \$23,500 for 2022. Councilman Hoffman made a motion to accept the low bidder Chases Lawn Care, LLC with Councilman Ragsdale making the second and all were in favor.

Next was the approval for the previously opened bids for SMU Water #1 and SMU Water #2. Two bids were received and opened in the February meeting from Viking Construction (SMU Water #1 \$3,200 and SMU Water #2 \$4,400) and CountyWide Painting (SMU Water #1 \$3,500 and SMU Water #2 \$2,800). Councilman Ragsdale made a motion to accept CountyWide Painting for both bids as it came lowest for the two jobs combined. Councilman Hoffman made the second and all were in favor.

Council Member Albright stated he wanted to provide an update on a successful work session held earlier in the day with two members of the beautification board and the clerk-treasurer concerning ideas, updates and projects for the near future. Sub committees are being formed to begin.

Albright stated he had met earlier in (See 'COUNCIL' on page 2)



Spring is Saturday

-Photo by Courtney Hughett

The first official day of spring is this Saturday, March 20. While the weather is starting to warm up during the day, the nighttime hours are still seeing close to freezing temperatures. Toward the end of next week, nighttime temperatures will start hovering close to 50 degrees.

Martin County's jobless rate bumps to 3.4 percent in January

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

Martin County's unemployment rate bumped up to 3.4 percent in January, up from 3.2 percent in December. The county had the 12th lowest jobless rate in the state in January, tied with five other counties. In January, the county had 5,576 residents in the workforce and 189 of them were without jobs. In December, there were 5,506 residents able to work and 174 of them were unemployed.

In January of 2020, Martin County's jobless rate was 2.8 percent with 5,381 residents in the workforce and 152 of them were without work.

Daviess County's jobless rate moved from 2.5 percent in December to 2.9 percent in January. The county had the fourth lowest jobless rate in the state for January, tied with Hamilton County.

In January, the county had 16,945 residents in the workforce and 496 of them were unemployed. In December, there were 16,800 residents able to work and 417 of them were without jobs.

In January of 2020, Daviess County's jobless rate was 3 percent with 16,674 residents in the workforce and 494 of them were unemployed.

Dubois County's unemployment rate rose from 3.1 percent in December to 3.6 percent in January. The county had the 20th lowest jobless rate in the state for January, tied with 10 other counties. In January, the county had 22,891 residents in the workforce with 835 of them without work. In December, there were 22,759 residents able to work and 707 of them were unemployed.

In January of 2020, Dubois County's jobless rate was 2.6 percent with 22,933 residents in the workforce and 601 of them were unemployed.

Greene County's unemployment rate jumped from 4 percent in December to 4.8 percent in January. The county had

the 22nd highest jobless rate in the state for January, tied with Fulton and Newton counties.

In January, the county had 13,432 residents in the workforce and 644 of them were without jobs. In December, there were 13,296 residents able to work and 538 of them were without work.

In January of 2020, Greene County's jobless rate was 4.6 percent with 13,594 residents in the workforce and 627 of them were unemployed.

The top ten spots in the state for lowest jobless rate for January were LaGrange and Adams counties at 2.7 percent, Boone County at 2.8 percent, Hamilton and Daviess counties at 2.9 percent, Tip-ton and Gibson counties at 3.2 percent, and Warren, Union, Posey and Hendricks counties at 3.3 percent.

The top ten spots in the state for highest jobless rate for January were Lake County at 7.4 percent, LaPorte County at 6.8 percent, Howard County at 6.1 percent, Marion and Orange counties at 5.9 percent, Fayette and Starke counties at 5.8 percent, St. Joseph and Vigo counties at 5.6 percent, and Madison County at 5.5 percent.

Indiana's unemployment rate stands at 4.2 percent for January, and the national rate is 6.3 percent. The monthly unemployment rate is a U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) indicator that reflects the number of unemployed people seeking employment within the prior four weeks as a percentage of the labor force.

Indiana's labor force had a net increase of 3,803 over the previous month. This was a result of a decrease of 12,700 unemployed residents and an increase of 16,503 employed residents.

Indiana's total labor force, which includes both Hoosiers employed and those seeking employment, stands at 3.35 million, and the state's 63.3 percent labor force participation rate remains above the national rate of 61.4 percent.

SCHOOL

(Continued from page one)

Superintendent Roush recommended the board resume allowing school volunteers to come into the school. The board approved.

High School Principal Kindra Hovis began with an update on ISTEP, which is now completed in the high school. She wished best of luck to the other buildings as they begin IREAD and ILEARN. High school students will be returning full-time after spring break. The high school will be hosting a spring fling next Thursday afternoon to kick off spring break (students will enjoy a smoke pork lunch prepared by the ag department and compete against one another at various stations). A huge thank you to the SPA for the generous donation to make this happen. Freshman orientation is next Thursday, March 18 at 6 p.m. in the cafeteria. A big congratulations to Reece Sherrill for making the 1,000-point-club in basketball. High school teachers are participating in midyear checks where they have a conference with the principal to discuss instruction, planning, and leadership skills. Jug Rox make a Difference Day is planned for April 14. It is open to any student and staff member who wants to join in cleaning up the community or volunteering their time at a local business. Thank you to all the staff members who are assisting with the freshman Thursday school, especially to Dr. Roush for taking the time to tutor groups of students during this time.

Elementary Principal Shannon Wagoner opened with an update from the librarian. They currently have 41 students signed up for Kindergarten Roundup. Enrollment is continually going up in the elementary building with a total of 299 currently enrolled. IREAD will be beginning this week. Thank you to Leah Bullock who has been doing a great job working with the students. Jennifer Guinn has been training the Orton-Gillingham course and is excited to put that knowledge to use as well as train other teachers. March MATHness is going on right now. March 16 will be the preschool registration date.

Junior High Principal Austin Malone began with the Spring Break coming up. The day before Spring Break (18th), the students will have a fun middle school afternoon. The students will have a "menu" to choose from to select where they'd like

to spend the afternoon. Rox Request needs - they are always happy to accept any donations as they are used multiple times weekly. CASS Counselors - they appreciate their work and willingness to help the students. Anyone who is interested in being a CASS Counselor please contact the office. NWEA round 3 will be coming up about two weeks before ILEARN. IU Luddy School of Informatics has recognized science teacher Cassie Phillips for her work with their computing program. ILEARN begins next month (April 19-May 14). Teachers are sitting down with each student to review their ILEARN scores from 2018-2019. A big thank you to Doug and Roger who have worked tirelessly to keep the sidewalks and parking lots cleared of snow. Also, to Loogootee Christian Church for the massive shoe and necessities donation for kids and the snack pile for the teachers. Thank you to Lorna Troutman for her continued donations to Rox Request. They are grateful for Tammy Cooper in all that she does for the students. Her hard work does not go unnoticed.

Dr. Roush gave the board a brief overview of the education bills being presented in the 2021 legislative session. She also described the results of the most recent school improvement survey. She congratulated the school on the positive survey results and when compared to the same survey that was distributed in 2017 almost every area had gone up by double-digit percentages. The survey was a great way to quantify how the school has grown and improved over the past four years. Dr. Roush congratulated the winter sports teams as well as the robotics team who is currently #2 in the state. She commented on the playground auction and stated that the new playground would be under construction for the next couple of months. Finally, she thanked Duke Energy for their grant to the athletics department and the Loogootee Christian Church for their large donation of shoes, hygiene supplies, and snacks for the staff.

Before adjourning, the board wanted to thank the athletic directors, Bryson and Danielle, for everything they have done for student athletes. They have done a fantastic job this season with the rescheduling of games and working with the state guidelines.

COUNCIL

(Continued from page one)

the day with Town Marshal Eckert and Clerk-Treasurer Rutledge concerning ordinance 83-4 violations. Albright stated seven violations of ordinance 83-4 were issued and two unfit dwellings ordinance notices were issued.

Fire Chief Hamby stated the fire department was looking to upgrade the 1988 Haan truck to a 2001 model they have found for sale. Hamby presented pictures of the truck they were looking to purchase which was a 2001 model for \$35,000. Council Member Albright stated that if the upgrade was done, the 1988 Haan would then be put up for sale. Hamby stated that was correct and the fire department was also going to be selling the Chevy Colorado truck that is not used. Hoffman asked what kind of shape the 1988 was in. Assistant Chief Dorsey said it would work and pump water, but it was still a 1988. Hamby stated they would list the 1988 Haan for \$10,000. Hamby stated the department covers two townships not just the Town of Shoals and that they have to have two good working trucks at all times. After discussion, Councilman Ragsdale made a motion for the department to purchase the 2001 with Councilman Hoffman making the second and all were in favor.

Beautification Board President Amber Hoffman stated the board met last week and made their plans for the spring and summer. Hoffman stated there would be no flower boxes on the bridge this upcoming season as INDOT is resurfacing the bridge. Hoffman stated she is hoping the work would conclude by fall so she could re-apply for the permits to place them back out in the fall. Hoffman requested approval to spend the \$2,000 that was appropriated into the general fund budget this year for the flowers, dirt and supplies for the 2021 planting season. Hoffman said the board would be seeking donations first and then use the money as needed. Hoffman stated any leftover money would be used for additional flower pots and potentially flower boxes for the bridge. Councilman Ragsdale made a motion to approve the \$2,000 being spent with Councilman Hoffman making the second. Councilman Ragsdale asked Hoffman about the plan for the signage project that is being funded by a grant the

board wrote that is getting ready to start. Hoffman explained the plan and also stated she is working with Roush Construction for a quote for the concrete bases the new signs will need for mounting.

Chief Hamby stated the grant that applied for to purchase a new tornado siren has been funded and that he needed approval to spend the money. The grant was \$10,000 and the siren, receiver and transceiver was \$9,500. The controller box and wiring expense will be the remainder and will be covered by the town. Clerk-Treasurer Rutledge stated that Duke Energy was donating the pole and setting the pole for the project for free. The siren will be placed in West Shoals on Lower Circle Drive. Hamby stated the new siren would be the same decibel tone as the one placed at the town hall. The council approved spending the grant funds.

Rutledge stated the "Jug Rox Make a Difference Day" would be returning this spring and if the board wanted anything specific added to the to-do list, to let her know. She asked for approval to have and set the annual town-wide spring clean-up for May 14-May 16 and order the dumpster. Councilman Ragsdale made a motion with Councilman Hoffman making the second and all were in favor. Next, Rutledge asked for approval to have and set the 2nd annual Shoals Town Wide Yard Sale for May 21 and 22. The council approved. Rutledge noted this falls on the weekend of the US Highway 50 Yard Sale Across America dates.

Rutledge stated she needed approval to spend the \$5,000 received from a grant that was received for way-finding signage in the town. The council approved. Rutledge stated the ballpark cleaning contract has been published for advertisement and names would be submitted until March 26, 2021. Rutledge presented the board members with the final documents of the utility rate study from Steve Brock that was now complete and ready for their review.

Councilman Hoffman asked if a letter could be sent to Old National Bank concerning the overflowing trash can in the lobby area that can be seen through the windows. With the ATM closed, no one other than the building owners can access it to change it.

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Attorney at Law
A Professional Corporation Telephone: 812-295-1096
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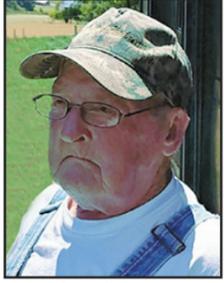


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OBITUARIES

VON SHAKE

Von Jay Shake passed away Sunday, March 14, 2021 at his home. A resident of Odon, he was 88.



VON SHAKE

He was born May 29, 1932 in Burns City; son of Emerson Albert and Viola Grace (Kinamin) Shake. Von married Fae (Terrell) Shake on June 7, 1952.

Von was a member of the Bunkem United Methodist Church and served on the Daviess County Fair Board with 40+ years over the sheep barn. He was a butcher at Bloomfield and Odon Lockers and was a sheep shearer for many years.

Family left to cherish the memory of Von include his wife, Fae Shake; three sons, Perry (Carla) Shake of Bloomington, Damon Shake of Odon and Kevin (Angie) Shake of Plainville; one daughter, Cindy (Dave) Stambach of Odon; 10 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and two sisters, Helen Carter of Bloomington and Grace Carrico of Odon.

Von was preceded in death by his parents; one son, Steve Shake; his wife, Kathy; one grandson, two granddaughters, five brothers and two sisters.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Friday, March 19 at Meng Family Funeral Home in Odon with Jim Pieper officiating. Von will be laid to rest in Walnut Hill Cemetery in Odon.

Family and friends may call from 4 until 8 p.m. Thursday, March 18 and from 9 a.m. until the time of service at 11 a.m. on Friday at the funeral home.

In compliance with state regulations, social distancing and face masks are required by all attending.

All arrangements have been entrusted to Meng Family Funeral Home in Odon. Condolences and memories of Von may be shared with the family online at www.mengfuneralhome.com.

TOMMY ROBERTS

Tommy Edison Roberts entered into eternal rest on Friday, March 12, 2021. A resident of Shoals, he was 78.

He was born in Avondale, West Virginia on December 12, 1942; son of Brooks Treavor and Laura Menda (Daughtery) Roberts.

Tommy married Patty Sue Hall on June 22, 1964 and she preceded him in death on March 12, 2011.

He was also preceded in death by his



TOMMY ROBERTS

parents; two brothers, Brooks and Ellis Roberts; and one sister, Lavern Roberts.

Tommy was a member of Natchez Church and retired from Broad Ripple Heating and Air in Indianapolis, Indiana. He enjoyed riding his four-wheeler, watching NASCAR and westerns, hunting until his health prevented him from doing so, and most of all spending time with family and friends.

Tommy is survived by two sons, Tommy Roberts of Indianapolis and Lawrence Roberts (Lisa) of Mooresville; one daughter, Sharon Pender (Stan) of Powell Valley; two brothers, Aaron Roberts (Mary) of Avondale, West Virginia and Les Roberts (Linda) of Sandborn; four sisters, Avon Ripple of Beckley, West Virginia; Ocie Helton of Beckley, West Virginia; Kathleen Dawson (Herman) of Mullins, West Virginia and Data Jones (Bob) of Avondale, West Virginia; 10 grandchildren, several great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild.

A funeral ceremony was conducted by Brother Mike Pender today, Wednesday, March 17 at Natchez Church in Shoals with burial following at Emmons Ridge Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial contributions be made to Emmons Ridge Cemetery, c/o Kathy Kalb, 2494 Hillham Road, French Lick, IN 47432.

Arrangements were in the care of Brosmer-Kemple Funeral Homes in French Lick. Condolences may be made at www.brosmer-kemplefuneralhome.com.

LINDA KING

Linda Lou King passed away Wednesday, March 10, 2021, at Indiana University Health Bloomington Hospital. A resident of Mitchell, she was 79.

She was born January 16, 1942, in Lawrence County; the daughter of William Flinn and Beatrice (Mullis) Wilson. She married Fredric W. King July 1, 1961, and he preceded her in death September 6, 2008.

Linda retired from Walmart. She graduated from Huron High School in 1960 and was a member of the Huron Baptist Church. Linda assisted her husband with the Huron and Shoals Boy Scouts. She was a caring woman and loved to cook.



LINDA KING

She is survived by daughters, Kimberly (Richard) Crowder of Shoals and Melissa (Brian) Jones and Jennifer (Kenneth Pferrer) King, both of Mitchell; nine grandchildren, nine step grandchildren, 30 great grandchildren, sisters, Ella (Dennis) Inman and Janie (Randy) Jones, both of Williams.

Her parents, husband, and sons, Vernon King and Michael King preceded her in death.

Cremation was chosen. Skip Mathews will officiate at the graveside service at Port William Cemetery at a later date.

Memorial gifts may be made to Lawrence County Community Foundation—Huron Heritage Fund. Online condolences can be made at www.chastainfuneralhome.com.

DAVID SMITH

David R. Smith passed away at 3:30 a.m. March 11, 2021. A resident of Loogootee, he was 78.



DAVID SMITH

He was born July 16, 1942 in Mt. Pleasant (Martin County); son of the late Oney J. and Imo M. (Phillips) Smith. He was the youngest of eight children.

He is survived by his wife, Wanda whom he married on August 24, 1968. They are the parents of four sons, Duane (Karen) Mann, Donald (Lori) Mann, and John David Smith, all of Loogootee and Jeffrey (Shanda) Smith of Washington. David and Wanda have nine grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his five brothers, one sister, and one grandson, Bray died in infancy.

He is survived by one sister, Mrs. Raymond Keiffner (Deloris) of Suwanee, Georgia, and one sister-in-law, Mrs. Norbert Smith (Clara) of Loogootee. David was educated in the Loogootee Public Schools Class of 1960. He attended Vincennes University and Ball State University. Except for a brief stint in long-term healthcare, he spent his entire career in the engineering field. His work took him to many states, Mexico and Canada. David always said he did not have a job

or assignment that he didn't like. He also served in the US Army Reserves.

He was member of the St. John's Lutheran Church in Loogootee for over 39 years. He served his church in many capacities.

He loved his grandchildren and adored his great grandchildren. He and Wanda enjoyed traveling, especially to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina; Daytona, Florida; and the Rocky Mountains. In his youth, he spent a lot of time in Iowa with his cousins, aunts and uncles.

He was too busy working or researching various projects to have any hobbies. He did enjoy fishing, hunting, and just walking in the woods when the opportunity arose.

He was an avid supporter of The College of the Ozarks (Hard Work U) Point Lookout, Missouri, and the Martin/Daviess County Right to Life.

A private service will be held, and burial will be in the Goodwill Cemetery in Loogootee.

The Queen-Lee Chapel of the Thorne-George Family Funeral Homes has been entrusted with the arrangements.

BETTY GUTHRIE

Betty Jo Guthrie age 74 of Orleans, passed away March 10, 2021 at Baptist Health in New Albany. A resident of Orleans, she was 74.



BETTY GUTHRIE

She was born June 22, 1946 in Martin County; daughter of William Earl and Florence (Wagoner) Melvin.

Betty was a 1964 graduate of Shoals High School, was retired from National Gypsum, and was a member of the Pleasant View Church of Christ.

Survivors include two sons, S. Butch Shaw of Louisville, Kentucky and A.J. (Danielle) Guthrie of Franklin; grandsons, Trey Guthrie and Camren Guthrie; siblings, Edie Davis and Joyce Jones, both of Shoals; and several nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her parents and several siblings.

Funeral services were held Monday, March 15 at the Queen-Lee Chapel in Shoals with Stan Day officiating. Burial followed in the Spring Hill Cemetery.

The Queen-Lee Chapel of the Thorne-George Family Funeral Homes has been entrusted with the arrangements.



WHO?: Town of Shoals Residents

WHAT?: Any old or unwanted items that have been sitting around taking up space in your home, garage or yard

WHEN?: Dumpster will arrive Friday, May 14 - Sunday, May 16, 2021 at the Town Hall located at 221 Low Street

All items are to be placed inside of the dumpster. Do not place items on the ground around the dumpster. Once the dumpster is full please do not leave your unwanted items.

Please do not dispose of the following items in the dumpster: tires, construction waste, paint, batteries, or any other chemical, hazardous or harmful material.

Let's all do our part to help keep Shoals beautiful and clean!



Shoals Community School

ONLINE AUCTION

March 20, 2021 ~ 12:00pm (noon)

The first lot is scheduled to close at 12:00pm (ET)

REGISTER & START BIDDING TODAY!

This is an online auction for the Shoals Community School Corporation with 200+ lots! Items include: Playground Equipment, Miller Welders, and Gym Flooring (some with logo)!

BIDDING ENDS: Saturday, March 20th, with first lot scheduled to end at 12:00pm ET (Soft Close)

PICK UP ON: Tuesday, March 23rd, from 2:00pm - 5:00pm ET (NO ALTERNATIVE PICK UP DATE).

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Martin County Sheriff's Department log

MONDAY, MARCH 8

12:46 a.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person east of Shoals. Captain Reed responded.

9:31 a.m. - Received a dog complaint near Shoals. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

10:58 a.m. - Received a report of a missing dog east of Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

12:53 p.m. - Received a report of a field fire near Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance, Martin County Civil Defense, and Loogootee Police responded.

1:40 p.m. - Received a report of a field fire in Daviess County. Martin County Civil Defense provided aide.

4:51 p.m. - Sergeant Gibson and Shoals Fire assisted a disabled semi on US 50, east of Shoals.

6:19 p.m. - Received a report of a field fire near Shoals. Shoals Fire and Sergeant Gibson responded.

9:36 a.m. - Received a request for a welfare check in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Means responded.

11:24 p.m. - Received a report of suspicious people near Shoals. Sergeant Gibson and Captain Reed responded.

TUESDAY, MARCH 9

1:12 p.m. - Received a dog complaint in Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

1:47 p.m. - Deputy Seymour took one inmate to court.

2:36 p.m. - Deputy Seymour took two inmates to court.

6:33 p.m. - Received a dog complaint in Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

7:03 p.m. - Received an alarm call in Loogootee. Loogootee Police responded.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

12:13 a.m. - Received a medical alarm call in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

5:38 a.m. - Received an alarm call in Shoals. Captain Reed responded. All was okay.

10:00 a.m. - Deputy Seymour took one inmate to court.

7:44 p.m. - Received a report of an accident north of Loogootee on US 231. Captain Reed, Deputy Flanagan, Sergeant Gibson, Deputy Lents, and Reserve Deputy Dorsey responded.

THURSDAY, MARCH 11

4:12 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant McBeth, Martin County Ambulance, and the Martin County Coroner responded.

6:55 a.m. - Received a report of a disabled vehicle on US 50, west of Shoals. Major Keller responded.

8:01 a.m. - Received report of an accident south of Shoals. Lost River Fire, Major Keller, and Dubois County Ambulance responded.

9:03 a.m. - Received a report of a disabled vehicle south of Loogootee on US 231. Loogootee Chief Floyd responded.

10:26 a.m. - Deputy Seymour took one inmate to court.

11:44 a.m. - Deputy Seymour took one

inmate to court.

11:52 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down on US 50, west of the state forest. Martin County Civil Defense responded.

1:15 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check east of Shoals. Town Marshal Eckert responded.

2:05 p.m. - Received a report of a disturbance southeast of Shoals. Town Marshal Eckert, Sheriff Roush, Deputy Lents, Reserve Deputy Dorsey, and ICO Doane responded.

3:00 p.m. - Deputy Seymour took three inmates to court.

7:36 p.m. - Received a pony complaint near Shoals. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

10:10 p.m. - Received a request for lift assistance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

10:38 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down on US 231 near mile marker 64. The state highway department was contacted.

11:30 p.m. - Received a report of a disabled semi on US 231, south of Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant McBeth and Deputy Flanagan responded.

FRIDAY, MARCH 12

1:25 a.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident on SR 558, north of Loogootee. Deputy Flanagan responded.

1:34 a.m. - Received a report of a female walking on US 231, south of Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant McBeth responded. The subject has been involved in an accident.

2:48 a.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident north of Loogootee. Daviess County Sheriff's Office responded.

6:30 a.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident on US 231, north of Loogootee. Deputy Flanagan responded.

6:49 a.m. - Received a report of vandalism in Loogootee. Loogootee Police were notified.

10:36 a.m. - Received a dog complaint in Shoals. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

10:53 a.m. - Received an alarm call in Shoals. Deputy Lents responded.

1:38 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

4:00 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

5:08 p.m. - Received a dog complaint near Shoals. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

5:35 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance southeast of Shoals. Martin County Ambulance, Lost River Fire, Dubois County Ambulance, Air Evac, and the Martin County Coroner responded.

10:24 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute near Shoals. Deputy Flanagan and Reserve Deputy Dorsey responded.

SATURDAY, MARCH 13

11:17 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 50, near Shoals. Corporal Barnett responded.

12:14 p.m. - Received a dog complaint in Shoals. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

2:41 p.m. - Received a report of a disturbance in Loogootee. Loogootee Police were advised.

3:05 p.m. - Received a dog complaint west of Shoals. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

11:10 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Deputy Flanagan responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

SUNDAY, MARCH 14

3:57 a.m. - Received a report of trespassing near Shoals. Deputy Flanagan responded.

5:04 a.m. - Received a report of an accident on SR 150, east of Shoals. Martin County Ambulance, Shoals Fire, and Deputy Flanagan responded. No one was transported.

10:31 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an impaired driver in need of assistance in Loogootee. Corporal Barnett and Loogootee Assistant Chief Rayhill responded.

ARRESTS

MONDAY, MARCH 8

4:38 p.m. - Jessica Martin, 31, of Wheatland, was arrested by Sergeant Gibson on a Martin County warrant and is being held without bond.

TUESDAY, MARCH 9

12:10 p.m. - Tyler Hamm, 33, of Mitchell, was arrested by ISP Trooper Beaver and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated controlled substance and forgery and is being held without bond.

6:17 p.m. - Lucas Cunningham, 28, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Officer Means and charged with possession of methamphetamine and possession of paraphernalia. He is being held without bond. Assisting with the arrest were Sergeant Gibson and K9 Officer Spike.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

4:27 p.m. - Nicholas Guy, 41, of Loogootee, was arrested by Deputy Lents on a Martin County warrant and is being held without bond.

Thursday, March 11

Welfare check leads to multiple drug arrests

On Friday, March 5, Reserve Deputy Josh Harmon received a call from Loogootee Police Chief, Jim Floyd, requesting assistance with a welfare check Loogootee. Upon arrival, Chief Floyd and Reserve Deputy Harmon made contact with the homeowner, who was identified as Alyssa R. Matheis, 35, of Loogootee. When Matheis opened the door, both officers noticed a strong odor of burnt marijuana emanating from the residence. Reserve Deputy Harmon asked Matheis if she had recently smoked marijuana or had marijuana inside her residence. Matheis admitted to having smoked marijuana prior to the officers arriving.

After leaving the residence, Reserve Deputy Harmon and Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, Michael A. Fritch, applied for a search warrant, which was later granted by the Honorable Circuit Court Judge, Lynne E. Ellis.

Later that evening, Reserve Deputy Harmon, with the assistance of Martin County Sheriff's Office Corporal Andrea Barnett, Deputy Rob Lents, and Loogootee Sergeant Kevin McBeth, arrived at the residence to execute the search warrant. Upon arrival, officers observed one male, later identified as Taylor A. Kavanaugh, 27, of Loogootee, standing just inside the open entryway to the residence. Two additional males, later identified as Evan C. Helms, 21, of Loogootee and Jared D. Knepp, 26, of Montgomery, were standing on the deck just outside of the open entryway. One additional male, later identified as Delmar D. Knepp, 27, of Montgomery, was observed walking just outside of the residence.

Officers detained all four individuals. During a pat-down search of the detained parties, Reserve Deputy Harmon

6:27 p.m. - Robert Goldsberry, 41, of Odon, was arrested by ISP Trooper Nolan on a Martin County warrant and is being held without bond.

10:41 p.m. - Betty Schultz, 41, of Washington, was arrested by ISP Trooper Nolan and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated controlled substance and operating a vehicle while intoxicated prior and is being held on a \$15,000 10% bond.

SATURDAY, MARCH 13

6:00 a.m. - Derrick Archer, 30, of Odon, was arrested by Deputy Flanagan and charged with possession of methamphetamine and possession of paraphernalia. He is being held without bond. Loogootee Sergeant McBeth assisted with the arrest.

12:52 p.m. - Josh Hedrick, 37, of Loogootee, was arrested for by Loogootee Assistant Chief Rayhill and charged with public intoxication and possession of marijuana. Bond has been set at \$5,000 10%.

located a marijuana smoking device along with a container containing THC wax located inside the pants pocket of Evan Helms.

When officers entered the residence to execute the search warrant, they recovered white powdery and crystal-like substances that field tested positive for methamphetamine. Also located during the search were a loaded handgun, baggies, marijuana, and paraphernalia. Shortly after the search, Matheis arrived and was taken into custody. All arrestees were transported to the Martin County Security Center without incident.

Alyssa R. Matheis was charged with dealing in methamphetamine, a Level 5 Felony; possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor; maintaining a common nuisance, a Class B Misdemeanor; and possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Taylor A. Kavanaugh was charged with dealing in methamphetamine, a Level 5 Felony; possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor; maintaining a common nuisance, a Class B Misdemeanor; and possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Evan C. Helms was charged with possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor; visiting a common nuisance, a Class B Misdemeanor; and possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Jared D. Knepp was charged with visiting a common nuisance, a Class B Misdemeanor.

Delmar D. Knepp was charged with visiting a common nuisance, a Class B Misdemeanor.

All suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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Jasonville (812) 665-3969	Bicknell (812) 735-3545	Bloomfield (812) 384-4453	

COURT NEWS

CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCING

March 3

Brandon S. Pendley, convicted of resisting law enforcement, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 365 days with 365 days suspended. Defendant received 8 months of probation.

March 5

Dawn A. Albright, convicted of operating a vehicle with an ACE of .15 or more, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 365 days with 365 days suspended. Defendant received 12 months of probation.

Joselyn R. Souerdikey, convicted of possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 180 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 90 actual days previously served plus 90 Class A credit days.

Larry G. Holt, Jr., convicted of possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 573 days with 365 days suspended and credit for 104 actual days previously served plus 104 Class A credit days. Defendant received 12 months of probation.

March 9

Ryan Joseph Mattingly, convicted of domestic battery resulting in moderate bodily injury, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to

serve 900 days with 600 days suspended with 130 actual days previously served plus 130 Class A credit days. Defendant received 14 months of probation.

CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED

March 3

Brandon S. Pendley, reckless driving, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

March 5

Dawn A. Albright, operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Joselyn R. Souerdikey, two counts of possession of a controlled substance, Class A Misdemeanors, dismissed.

Larry G. Holt, Jr., possession of marijuana, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

March 9

Ryan Joseph Mattingly, domestic battery resulting in serious bodily injury, a Level 5 Felony, dismissed; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed.

CIVIL COURT

New Suits Filed

March 5

Glen S. Brumble vs. Laura A. Brumble, petition for dissolution of marriage.

March 8

Synchrony Bank vs. Tammy Maschino, civil collection.

Martin County real estate transfers

Cliff S. Goodman and Kari L. Goodman, of Martin County, Indiana to **D&L Construction, LLC**, of Daviess County, Indiana. Tract I: A part of the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 2, Township 3 North, Range 3 West, Halbert Civil Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 5.18 acres, more or less. Tract II: A part of the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 2, Township 3 North, Range 3 West, containing 27 acres.

Linda D. Brown, of Martin County, Indiana to **Linda D. Brown and Laura Ann Brown**, of Martin County, Indiana. Tract I: The west half of the southwest quarter of Section 4, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, containing 80 acres, more or less. Tract II: All that part of the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 10, Township 2 North, Range 4 West, containing 10 acres, more or less.

Cameron Robert Ochs, of Martin County, Indiana to **Lori Sims**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the southeast quarter of Section 7, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, in Halbert Township, Martin County, Indiana, more commonly known as 8178 Windom Road, Shoals IN 47581, containing 1 acre, more or less.

Leon Wittmer and Donetta Wittmer, of Daviess County, Indiana to **Matthew Lynn Wittmer**, of Daviess County, Indiana, a portion of the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 13, Township 4 North, Range 5 West of the Second Principal Meridian lying in Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 0.962 acres, more or less.

Mitchell Warren Rabe, of Martin County, Indiana to **Sandra C. Armstrong**, of Martin County, Indiana, a portion of the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, in the City of Loogootee, Martin County, Indiana, containing 0.163 acre.

Amy J. Holt, as personal representative of the unsupervised estate of Delbert J. Howell, of Martin County, Indiana to **Nicole Pendleton**, of Martin County, Indiana, a tract of land located in Martin County,

Indiana, in Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, containing 0.23 acre, more or less.

Charlotte A. Rogers, of Martin County, Indiana to **Dawn A. Wadsworth**, of Daviess County, Indiana, part of the east half of the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 31, Township 5 North, Range 4 West, containing 1.144 acres, more or less.

Warren A. Atkison, of Martin County, Indiana to **Kevin R. Boyd and Riza L. Boyd**, of Martin County, Indiana. Tract I: The north half of Lot Number 56 in the Town of West Shoals, now Shoals, Indiana. Tract II: Lot Numbered 57 in Chenoweth's Extension to the Town of West Shoals, now Shoals, Indiana.

Jerome G. Knies and Holly L. Knies to **Progressive Investment Company, LLC**. Tract I: Part of the southeast quarter of Section 22, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, Martin County, Indiana, containing 37.990 acres, more or less. Tract II: Part of the north half of the southwest quarter of Section 35, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, Martin County, Indiana, containing 25.108 acres, more or less.

JJ Knies Farms, LLC to Progressive Investment Company, LLC, a part of the east half of Section 23, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, Lost River Civil Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 48.674 acres.

Loretta J. Holt to Teresa Ann Merritt, the south two-thirds of Lot Number 141 in the Town of Shoals, formerly Memphis, in Section 30, Township 3 North, Range 3 West.

Gary L. Sims, of Martin County, Indiana to **Adam Divine**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 29, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, containing 5.6 acres, more or less.

Brandon S. Melvin, of Martin County, Indiana to **Corby Brassett**, of Sonoma County, California, a part of the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 17, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, Halbert Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 1.348 acres, more or less.

Loogootee Police log

MONDAY, MARCH 8

9:40 a.m. - Assistant Chief Rayhill completed a vehicle check.

12:55 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department was dispatched to a field fire on US 231 North.

1:37 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department was dispatched to assist Daviess County with a fire in a wooded area on 1350 East.

9:01 p.m. - Officer Means completed a welfare check.

4:04 p.m. - Assistant Chief Rayhill checked on a small fire on North Line Street and determine it to be a controlled burn.

TUESDAY, MARCH 9

9:42 a.m. - Caller reported a lost or stolen license plate.

12:37 p.m. - Caller reported vandalism at a local business.

12:53 p.m. - Caller reported uncontrolled dogs on Southwest First Street.

1:30 p.m. - Caller reported a trash complaint.

4:25 p.m. - Sgt. Hennette completed a vehicle check.

6:42 p.m. - Officer Means completed a welfare check on Church Street.

7:05 p.m. - Officer Means responded to an alarm at a local church.

7:45 p.m. - A caller advised of a controlled burn on East Broadway Street.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

9:08 a.m. - A caller reported vandalism at a local business.

4:43 p.m. - Chief Floyd spoke with a complainant about issues with renters.

5:10 p.m. - Chief Floyd completed a vehicle check.

5:11 p.m. - Chief Floyd spoke with a complainant about a custody issue.

THURSDAY, MARCH 11

9:00 a.m. - Chief Floyd responded to a report of a disabled vehicle on US 231 South.

9:15 a.m. - Chief Floyd spoke with a complainant about recent vandalism occurring at a local business.

10:10 p.m. - Sgt. McBeth assisted Martin County Ambulance at a residence.

11:32 p.m. - Sgt. McBeth assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with a stranded truck on US 231 South.

11:48 p.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call on Walnut Street.

FRIDAY, MARCH 12

1:34 a.m. - Sgt. McBeth assisted a stranded motorist on US 231 South.

8:00 a.m. - Sgt. Hennette checked a residence in reference to possible vandalism.

1:37 p.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call on Cedar Street.

3:52 p.m. - Sgt. Hennette responded to a property damage accident on JFK Avenue and Main Street.

5:50 p.m. - Officer Means completed a security check at a local business.

6:03 p.m. - Caller reported a truck pulling a trailer with no brake lights on US 231 South.

SATURDAY, MARCH 13

2:50 p.m. - Sgt. Hennette responded to a report of a suspicious person in a local business.

7:06 p.m. - Officer Means spoke with a

complainant in reference to violation of a protective order.

8:59 p.m. - Officer Means responded to a residential burglar alarm.

11:47 p.m. First responders were dispatched to a medical call on Brickyard Road.

SUNDAY, MARCH 14

3:30 a.m. - Officer Means assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department and Daviess County Sheriff's Department with a verbal dispute.

5:04 a.m. - Officer Means assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with a property damage accident in the Shoals area.

10:35 a.m. - Caller reported a possible impaired driver.

Arrest of wanted man leads to additional meth charges

On Monday, March 9, 2021, Martin County Sheriff's Office Sergeant Larry Gibson observed a white Chevy truck traveling eastbound on Butcher Boulevard in Loogootee. Sergeant Gibson recognized the driver of the vehicle as Lucas J. Cunningham, 28, of Loogootee, and knew that Cunningham had two felony warrants for his arrest out of Daviess County. Sergeant Gibson requested the assistance of Loogootee Police Chief Jim Floyd who was in the area. After Cunningham's vehicle turned right onto Walker Street, a traffic stop was initiated by Chief Floyd. Cunningham was asked to exit the vehicle, advised of the existing warrants out of Daviess County, and placed under arrest.

Sergeant Gibson then utilized his Certified Narcotics K9 Spike to do a free-air sniff of the exterior of the vehicle. K9 Spike alerted to a positive indication of the odor of narcotics within the vehicle. Loogootee Police Officer Aaron Means arrived on scene to assist and stood by with Cunningham while Sergeant Gibson and Chief Floyd performed a search of the vehicle. The search of the vehicle yielded multiple items of paraphernalia that contained a white powdery substance that field-tested positive for methamphetamine.

Cunningham was transported by Officer Aaron Means to the Martin County Security Center without incident. The vehicle was towed by C and C towing.

Cunningham was charged with possession of methamphetamine within 1000 feet of a school, a Level 5 Felony; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor; and possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor.

All suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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NOTICE:

In preparation for mowing season, spring cleanup of St. John Catholic Cemetery will take place on Saturday, March 27, 2021. All grave blankets and other ground decorations as well as obviously outdated gravestone decorations (e.g. Christmas) must be removed prior to that time. Any ground or outdated decorations remaining will be removed by the cleanup crew.



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COMMUNITY & EVENTS

More Neat Stuff



By Ann Ackerman



SENIOR CITIZEN JEOPARDY – thanks Carolyn. The answers will be on the tip of your tongue, but you just can't quite remember the correct answer. Youngsters, you don't have a chance.

After the Lone Ranger saved the day and rode off into the sunset, the grateful citizens would ask, "Who was that masked man?" Invariably, someone would answer, "I don't know, but he left this behind." What did he leave behind? A _____.

2. When the Beatles first came to the U.S. In early 1964, we all watched them on The _____ Show.

3. "Get your kicks, _____!"

4. The story you are about to see is true. The names have been changed to _____.

5. 'In the jungle, the mighty jungle, _____.'

6. After the Twist, The Mashed Potato, and the Watusi, we 'danced' under a stick that was lowered as low as we could go in a dance called the '_____.'

7. Nestle's makes the very best _____.

8. Satchmo was America's 'Ambassador of Goodwill.' Our parents shared this great jazz trumpet player with us. His name was _____.

9. What takes a licking and keeps on ticking? _____.

10. Red Skeleton's hobo character was named _____ and Red always ended his television show by saying, 'Good Night, and _____.'

11. Some Americans who protested the Vietnam War did so by burning their _____.

12. The cute little car with the engine in the back and the trunk in the front was called the VW. What other names did it go by? _____ or _____.

13. In 1971, singer Don MacLean sang a song about, 'the day the music died.' This was a tribute to _____.

14. We can remember the first satellite placed into orbit. The Russians did it. It was called _____.

15. One of the big fads of the late 50's and 60's was a large plastic ring that we twirled around our waist. It was called the _____.

16. Remember LS/MFT _____ / _____.

17. Hey Kids! What time is it? It's _____!

18. Who knows what secrets lie in the hearts of men? Only The _____ Knows!

19. There was a song that came out in the 60's that was "a grave yard smash". Its name was the _____!

20. Alka Seltzer used a "boy with a tablet on his head" as its Logo/Representative. What was the boy's name? _____

ANSWERS

1 The Lone Ranger left behind... A silver bullet; 2. The Ed Sullivan Show; 3. on Route 66; 4. To protect the innocent; 5. The Lion Sleeps Tonight; 6. The limbo; 7. Chocolate; 8. Louis Armstrong; 9. The Timex Watch; 10. Freddy, The Freeloader and 'Good Night and God Bless'; 11. Draft Cards (Bras were also burned. Not flags, as some have guessed) 12. Beetle or Bug; 13. Buddy Holly; 14. Sputnik; 15. Hoola-hoop; 16. Lucky Strike/Means Fine Tobacco; 17. Howdy Doody Time; 18. Shadow; 19. Monster Mash; 20. Speedy.

Send this to your 'older' friends, (Better known as Seniors.) It will drive them crazy! And keep them busy and let them forget their aches and pains for a few minutes.

Make someone smile today!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Loogootee School Board meeting

The Loogootee School Board will meet Thursday, March 18 at 5 p.m. in the LHS Media Center. The meeting is open to the public.

Equipment auction

The Shoals Community School Corporation is auctioning off old playground equipment, two welders, and pieces of the gymnasium floor. The auction will close on March 20 at 12 p.m. ET. Pick-up will be on March 23, from 3-5 p.m. ET. The Graber Auctions link can be found at <https://graberauctions.com/catalog/266310/online-auction---shoals-community-school/>.

Goodwill Cemetery clean-up

Spring clean-up will begin this week at Goodwill Cemetery in Loogootee. Please remove all old worn flower arrangements, Christmas arrangements and Christmas ground blankets. Ceramic pieces that interfere with weed eating are asked to also be moved close to the headstone or removed. Quite a few are left from last year and weeds have taken over or are broken. The mowing crew cannot be asked to remove them, weed eat and replace as this takes too much of their time. Workers will go through beginning April 1 and remove any that have not been taken care of by then in preparation for the upcoming cutting season.

Grief support program

A grief support program is being provided by Thorne George Funeral Homes free of charge. The program, normally \$79, can be received for free by using the coupon code "Thorne-George". The program is confidential and self-directed. Those interested can visit www.griefplan.com and click "take me to the grief plan program".

St. Vincent Food Pantry

The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, on Park Street in Loogootee, is open the fourth Thursday of the month except November and December when they are open the third Thursday. The hours are 8 a.m.-noon and 1-4 p.m.

Mental Health Task Force

The Martin County Mental Health Task Force meets on the second Wednesday of the month from 1-2 p.m. at the Community Learning Center on the Martin County Fairgrounds.

Celebrate Recovery meetings

Celebrate Recovery meetings will be held every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at Redemption Church in Loogootee. This is a Christ-centered recovery program and anyone is welcome to attend.

Local recovery meetings

Wednesdays-Alcoholic Anonymous, Martin County Community Corrections Building at 8 p.m.; Thursdays-Narcotics Anonymous, Redemption Church Loogootee at 8 p.m.; Fridays-Alcoholic Anonymous, Loogootee Municipal Building Loogootee at 8 p.m.

Free lunch for kids

New Beginnings Community Church will be offering a free lunch to all school

age children every Saturday. Lunches can be picked up at the fellowship hall of the church, located at 105 Wood St, Loogootee no later than 10:30 a.m. Deliveries will begin between 10:30 and 11 a.m. Saturdays.

SOAR Tutoring

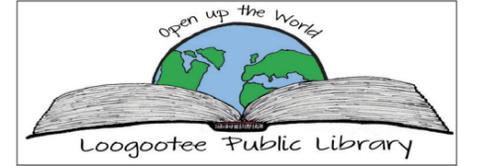
Need Skills? SOAR tutors can help! Free and confidential. Call or text Karen at 812-709-1618 to learn more. Located in the Martin County Community Learning Center Improve Your Skills, Improve Your Life!

Solid waste board

The Martin County Solid Waste Board holds their monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the recycling center located at 500 Industrial Park Drive in Loogootee. The meetings are open to the public and anyone is invited to attend.

Soil and Water meetings

The Martin County SWCD meets the third Monday of the month at the SWCD office located at Martin County Learning Center. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays except Thursdays when it is closed. Visit www.martinswcd.com or call at 295-3149.



BY DARLA WAGLER

Librarian, Loogootee Public Library

Haileigh Nonte has been hired as the new library clerk and Mackenzie Wagoner will be providing children's programming this summer. The library has returned to normal operating hours. The March calendar is posted on the library Facebook page.

Carolyn Parsons-Downey has a book club that meets once a month at the library. Call Carolyn for more details if you are interested.

New Books:

Mystery: "Win" by Harlan Coben.

Fiction: "Meant to Be" by Jude Deveraux.

DVDs: "Love in Harmony Valley" and "Greenland".

Library hours: Monday 10-7, Tuesday 10-5, Closed on Wednesday, Thursday 10-7, Friday 10-5, and Saturday 9-1. The library phone number is 812-295-3713 and check out the website www.loogootee.lib.in.us or like us on Facebook. The library has free Wi-Fi service available for patrons.

Loogootee golf cart registration

The City of Loogootee requires all golf carts to be registered with the police department and pay a \$10 sticker fee for renewal registrations and a \$25 sticker fee for first-time inspections. You may register and pay the fee at the Loogootee Police Department anytime from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Friday. Registrations need to be renewed by June 1, 2021.

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Radius Indiana introduces small-scale manufacturing program to the region

Radius Indiana and South Central Indiana Small Business Development Center will introduce a program focused on bringing small-scale manufacturing to downtown areas in the Radius region.

Recast City is a national economic development program aimed at building strong local economies and creating new opportunities for community members. The Town of Orleans, Town of Odon, City of Washington, City of Salem, and City of Loogootee will participate in a 12-month Recast City cohort beginning March 16 to learn about downtown revitalization.

"The Town of Orleans has a beautiful Town Square with several buildings that are empty, and with the Recast

programs' leadership, we hope to find a suitable match with a potential small manufacturing client," said James Clark, president of the Orleans Town Council. "We look forward to seeing the opportunities and growth Recast City brings to the community."

The program is made available through cost sharing between Radius and Indiana SBDC. The Indiana SBDC funding is made possible by the Small Business Administration and comes from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, which provides financial relief to small businesses affected by the impacts of COVID-19.

In small-scale manufacturing, a community of businesses works together

to produce tangible products that may be sold to customers. The program is aligned to assets in each community, which can support enterprises from a microbrewery, to coffee roastery, to candle making. The program will impact a minimum of four enterprises as the communities implement their strategy to have a small-scale manufacturer in their downtown areas.

According to the Small Business Administration, over 99 percent of businesses in Indiana are considered small businesses, and 1.2 million jobs are supported by small businesses.

The Radius region is home to over 6,000 small businesses, approximately 80 percent of all businesses in the eight

counties. Small businesses employ over 35,000 workers, accounting for 40 percent of the region's jobs.

"The Recast City program demonstrates the resiliency that exists within each of the communities in the Radius region," said Keeley Stingel, vice president of talent attraction and retention for Radius Indiana. "Rural communities are often left out of economic recoveries, and this program is a 'pull yourself up by your bootstraps' approach that shows that when we all work together, economic prosperity is possible. We're excited to see the resulting business enterprises in downtowns throughout the region."

To learn more about Recast City, visit www.recastcity.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

HELP WANTED

Ballpark Clean-Up Help Wanted

The Town of Shoals Park Board is accepting names for the ballpark cleaning contract for the 2021 season.

Cleaning season is set as: April 1 thru October, 1 2021

Contracted terms:

\$275 per month for the season. A bonus check for the week of Catfish Festival will be issued.

Interested individuals can pick up a copy of the contract with expected duties and details and a name submittal form at the Shoals Town Hall located at 221 Low Street. Interested individuals will need to submit their name for consideration using the provided form to the Clerk-Treasurer's office at the Shoals Town Hall by Friday, March 26, 2021.

Any questions can be directed to the Shoals Clerk-Treasurer's office at 812-247-2110.

YARD SALE

THE ANNUAL RSVP Volunteer Center Arts and Crafts Supply Sale will be held from 8am to 4pm on Thursday, March 25th and Friday, March 26th, and from 8am to noon on Saturday, March 27th at Eastside Park Community Building in Washington. Tons of supplies such as fabric, yarn, paints, books, patterns, scrapbooking and much more. New items everyday. On Saturday, fill a bag for just \$1! Call 812-254-1996 for more information. Face coverings and social distancing are required.

Advertise in the
Martin County
Journal

Email courtney@martincountyjournal.com



JOB POSTING

Program Director of Martin County Community Corrections

Applications Accepted: March 16, 2021- April 1, 2021 (midnight deadline)

Internal and External Post: Open to any interested applicants

Terms of Employment: Full time salary position with benefits. FLSA: exempt (Effective May 2021)

Salary: Competitive salary based upon degrees held and years of experience.

Benefits to include (but not limited to): Public Employees Retirement Fund, health, dental, vision, life insurance, long term disability, paid time off, and use of agency owned vehicle for businesses purposes.

Pre-Employment Screening Requirements to include (but not limited to): Drug test, Department of Child Services (CPS) history check, criminal history background check & driver's record check.

General Summary/Overview: Primary function of the job is to supervise and coordinate the Community Corrections Program within the Circuit Court, including overseeing the work of community corrections employees. The Director is also responsible for working closely with the Advisory Board, writing and applying for grants, assessing offenders, and creating programs for rehabilitation.

Preferred Essential Qualifications: Bachelor's Degree in criminal justice, law enforcement, human services or related field, four to six years of experience in related field, grant writing experience/skills, a resident of Martin County or willingness to relocate.

Minimum Qualifications/Requirements: All minimum qualifications and requirements are listed in detail on the position description provided in the application packet.

Applicants must meet all of the minimum requirements as listed on the position description, agree to all conditions of employment with Martin County, and be able to successfully perform all essential duties and responsibilities with or without reasonable accommodations. This position may require irregular hours. Travel is required at times to attend meetings, workshops, or training sessions that can take place out of town, overnight or on weekends. Serves on a 24-hour on-call basis and responds to emergencies pertaining to the agency.

Interested applicants can pick up an application packet at the Martin County Auditor's Office located in the Martin County Courthouse. The application packet includes: Martin County application for employment, complete position description with all duties and requirements, pre-employment screening forms.

Applications being submitted for consideration should be sealed and include a completed Martin County employment application, the applicants resume, completed pre-screening requirement forms and be marked

ATTN: MCCC Advisory Board. Submissions can be mailed in or dropped off at the Martin County Auditor's Office.

Martin County is an equal opportunity employer.

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We will have an early spring this year—literally. Spring begins with the vernal equinox, which may fall on March 20 or 21 in various years. This year, we reach the point of equinox at 5:37 a.m. (EDT) on Saturday, March 20, so it is definitely an early spring.

We have had some spring-like weather during the final days of winter, but this is not unusual. In fact, several people have noted that their first daffodil blooms were a couple of weeks later this year. This has allowed gardeners to get out and get some clean-up work done. I had good intentions, but a stint in the ER and ICU last week wrecked my gardening plans. I will be doing as much as possible the next couple of weeks to get back on schedule.

Spring clean-up is always an important task. I generally do not do much garden clean-up in the fall. I leave seed heads to feed the birds and stubble to help protect the crowns of perennial plants. In late winter or early spring, I spruce up the garden by cutting down last year's growth. However, I do not completely take this debris out of the garden. Many pollinators and other insects spend the winter in stubble, so I stack it in an out-of-the-way spot to allow the beneficial insects to emerge when temperatures warm. In a few weeks, I will run the mower over this debris to chop it up for composting.

I did manage to get the old leaves cut back from the many clumps of hellebores at Sandhill Gardens. The foliage had become tattered over the winter and removing it allows the emerging flowers to be seen more easily. This may be the best year ever for the hellebores in my gardens. I have added several cultivars with upright flowers and they certainly make a statement at this time of the year. With colors ranging from white to nearly black, with shades of red and pink in between, there is a rainbow of blooms. I even have hellebores with green

How to prevent or reduce Canada geese conflicts

Changing habitat now can help prevent human-geese conflicts later.

Once Canada geese have started using a site, it can be difficult to discourage them from staying there through the season. Preventive action is the best way to deter Canada geese.

Many breeding pairs of Canada geese start looking for nesting locations this time of year. Geese frequently return to areas where they've been successful nesting before. They prefer areas within 150 feet of open water that are surrounded by turf grass, which is their favorite food.

If geese are being fed by people, this only encourages them to congregate in large groups and renders attempts to manage them useless. Feeding Canada geese—or any other wildlife—causes the animals to lose fear of humans, increasing the likelihood of conflicts with humans, especially those who have no food for them.

To discourage Canada geese from nesting at a site, before they nest, you can dissuade them at any time, without a permit from DNR, as long as you don't harm the birds and don't violate any local ordinances. Effective techniques can be aural, visual, or physical to include airhorns, whistles, motion sensor lights, predator decoys, and sprinklers. A complete list can be found at wildlife.IN.gov/3000.htm.

The pre-nesting period is also the ideal time to consider installing temporary or permanent barriers. Common physical barriers include fences, rocks, and strips of native plants. Indiana's native plants are those that have grown in the state for thousands of years and have adjusted to

flowers. Some of the hellebores will continue to flower until summer, so the show is not ephemeral.

There are several ephemerals that complement the hellebore show. Crocuses in various colors and winter aconite were the first on the scene. The vernal witch hazel and early daffodils have now come onto the scene. With over 40 varieties of daffodils planted at Sandhill Gardens, I will have daffodils for a couple of months. I have been asked which is my favorite and my answer is always "the one that is in bloom today". Other bulbous plants, including tulips, hyacinths, muscari and fritillarias, will be coming into bloom soon. Several shrubs will also become landscape stars in coming weeks. It is an exciting time of the year.

I am happy to report that the lettuce planted on Valentine's Day is thriving in the cold frame. Tiny cabbage, broccoli and cauliflower plants are also up and growing. Some mustard and kale that overwintered will supply some salads this week. Add some wild greens, such as chickweed and dandelion, and one can have a tasty and healthy dinner.

It is also time to begin seeding many crops in the greenhouse. Most of the seed packets have a recommended number of days to transplant stage. Plant warm-season crops, including tomatoes, peppers and eggplant, to transplant after May 10, which is our safe-from-frost date. Many ornamental plants also fall into this planting time. I generally do not start too many flowers from seed, but there are some that nurseries do not carry, so I have to grow them to ensure I will have them for the garden this summer.

St. Patrick's Day is the traditional day to plant peas. I hope you remembered to prepare a bed for peas last fall so all you have to do is poke the seeds into the ground. Spring is definitely a lot of work, but the results are worth the effort.

Indiana's climate and landscape. Learn more about physical barriers at wildlife.IN.gov/3002.htm.

Once nests are established and for the rest of the nesting season, adult male and female geese will actively defend their nest—this is when most conflicts with humans occur. After the last egg is laid, Canada geese incubate eggs for approximately 28 days. Eggs hatch throughout late April and June. In June and July, adult Canada geese molt their flight feathers around the same time their newly hatched goslings emerge. During this time, using discouragement techniques will not work because neither the adults nor the goslings can fly away.

Canada goose egg and nest management can limit the number of Canada geese produced after nesting. If a Canada goose nest does not have eggs or birds in it, it can be destroyed at any time without a federal permit. Once eggs have been laid, you can take no further action without first registering with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at epermits.fws.gov/eRCGR/geSI.aspx.

Remember, using several techniques in combination will be more effective than using just one. Short-term techniques can relieve immediate problems, but long-term solutions are more likely to reduce future conflicts.

Canada goose management plans that have clear actions, community buy-in, and long-term commitment are most likely to be successful. DNR district wildlife biologists can help individuals and communities develop their plans and provide advice specific to the situation. Their contact information is at wildlife.IN.gov/2716.htm.

Indiana State Climate Office provides spring outlook

Meteorological spring is here, with predictions by the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) covering March, April and May. The vernal equinox, traditionally celebrated as the beginning of the season, will occur on March 20. There are currently strong La Nina conditions prevailing with greater than a degree Celsius below-average temperature in the Pacific Equatorial region. These conditions have some impact on the outlook.

The La Nina currently affecting Indiana is relatively strong, but it should weaken through the spring with El Nino—Southern Oscillation (ENSO) neutral conditions prevailing by the summertime. Model forecasts predict a chance of returning to La Nina again by the autumn. A traditional winter/early spring La Nina places Indiana at risk for more than average precipitation. The CPC predicts that Indiana has a greater than 40 percent chance of wetter than average conditions (compared to drier than normal or normal conditions).

Beth Hall, Indiana state climatologist, said, "This winter started quite mild, which is not unusual for La Nina winters. We were anticipating that the winter would end with more winter-like conditions—particularly concerning unusually cold and snowy conditions. It's always a relief when those predictions seem to come true like we saw this past February!"

Predictions indicate most will receive about a half-inch of precipitation above the average for the next three months. This news would be welcome for the north and northeastern parts of the state, where abnormally dry and moderate drought conditions have persisted since last fall.

La Nina springs tend to have a warming signal in the southern U.S., while less of a signal exists for the northern parts of the continent. Meanwhile, the general trend toward warm springs in past years has been moderately predictable. The CPC has most of the nation listed with probabilities of higher than normal temperatures, including all of Indiana. Averaged over the period, Indiana temperatures are predicted only at 0.5 degrees Fahrenheit warmer than average, however.

Spring brings the return of humidity, warmer temperatures and a greater like-

lihood of severe weather. La Nina conditions have been studied with correlations to hailstorms and tornadoes. Spring La Nina conditions increase the probability of hailstorms throughout the state of Indiana. Tornado probability is slightly increased only in southern Indiana. Probabilities increase in the Oklahoma/Arkansas region, but taper out further from that epicenter.

To analyze the spring forecast, most of the information for this article resides at www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/. The reference to severe weather is available at <https://climate.gov/> or in the Journal Nature Geoscience, published in April 2015 and written by Allen, Tippet, and Sobel.

For more information on the seasonal outlook, contact Hans Schmitz at the Purdue Extension Posey County office via hschmitz@purdue.edu or 812-838-1331, or the Indiana State Climate Office at 765-494-8060.

Aquarium owners: Check moss balls for zebra mussels

Zebra mussels, which are an aquatic invasive species, have been found in Marimo moss balls, a product sold at many aquarium and pet supply stores.



Zebra mussels have the potential to harm Indiana's aquatic environment. They are identifiable by the light and dark stripes on their shells, which look like the stripes on a zebra.

These mussels can be tiny and are easily overlooked. If you have purchased Marimo moss balls from any aquarium or pet supply store this year, destroy the moss balls, dispose of them in the trash, and clean your aquarium. Complete instructions are at fws.gov/fisheries/ANS/zebra-mussel-disposal.html.

In addition, email AIS@dnr.IN.gov with the source of the moss balls, the approximate date of purchase, and photographs of zebra mussels on the moss balls.

DNR is working with aquarium and pet supply stores to remove and properly destroy all affected inventory.

For more information on zebra mussels or other aquatic invasive species, see dnr.IN.gov/6348.htm.

2ND ANNUAL SHOALS

Town Wide

YARD

SALE

and Main Street Market

Friday, May 21 & Saturday, May 22, 2021

(Rain or Shine at seller's discretion)

Sellers: Please contact the Shoals Town Hall by May 6th to be included in any advertisement/lists that will be provided for the event. Locations will be listed in the order that they are received. Main Street Market will be any Main Street businesses who choose to have a sidewalk sale on this date.

Questions: Shoals Town Hall (812) 247-2110

2021 Seniors



SHOALS HIGH SCHOOL



KAYDENCE SUTTON

Kaydence Alyne Sutton is the daughter of Jesse and Dale Sudduth. She has two siblings, Peyton Sutton and Anna Fox. While in high school, Kaydence participated in Volleyball, Basketball, Softball, Beta Chapter, SALT, Mayor's Youth Council, Student Council, PEP Club, Academic Club, IMPACCT, Spanish Club, and Youth Extension Council. Her favorite high school memory is singing karaoke in Mr. Dahlen's class. After graduation, Kaydence plans to attend Kelley School of Business at Indiana University to pursue a degree in business management.



CHRISTAL DOANE

Christal Faith Doane is the daughter of Eric and Tish Doane. She has two siblings, Tanner Doane and Michaela Jones. While in high school, Faith participated in volleyball, Beta Club, Impact Club and SADD. After graduation, Faith plans to pursue vocational ministry.



SHYANN SMITH

Shyann Marie Smith is the daughter of Robert and Samantha Smith. Her siblings are Ben Grogen, Zolton Smith, Athena Smith, Jamareon Thompson, Ellijah Myers, and Paris Mckeller. While in high school, Shyann participated in choir, band, and orchestra. Her favorite high school memory is being in Mrs. Perry's classroom and cooking with her two best friends Mackenzie Bush and Arakina Tincher. After graduation, Shyann plans to attend Lincoln Tech and obtain degrees in welding, auto mechanics, and plumbing.



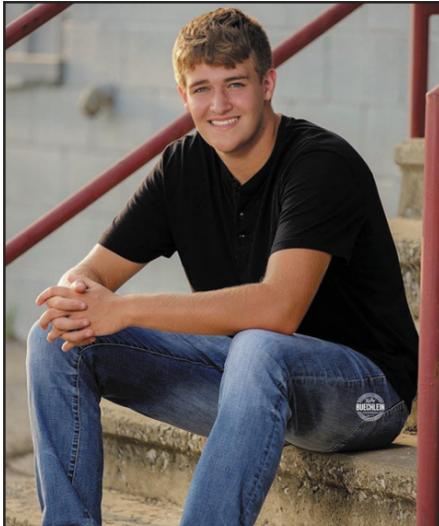
SEAN LENTS

Sean Casey Lents is the son of Kevin and Sheila Lents. His siblings are Kerriann, Cassidy, Aaron, and Brady. While in high school, Sean participated in Baseball, Basketball, Soccer, and Pep Club. His favorite high school memory is hanging out with friends. After graduation, Sean plans to attend Vincennes University.



COLTON MULLINS

Colton Michael Mullins is the son of Donald and Cindy Mullins. He has two siblings, Dakota and Ashley Mullins. While in high school, Colton participated in Robotics and band. His favorite memory is going on a band trip to Florida. After graduation, Colton plans to attend Vincennes University to become a mechanic.



REECE SHERRILL

Reece Matthew Sherrill is the son of John and Erin Sherrill. His siblings are Kyler, Gavin, and Miley Sherrill. While in school, Reece participated in Basketball, Baseball, Soccer, and Beta Club. His favorite high school memory is missing the breakaway dunk against Washington Catholic Junior year and talking to Mr. Smith a lot throughout the school day. After graduation, Reece plans to go to college, make money, and visit the Eiffel Tower with my best friend, Nick Bowman.



Shoals grant

-Photo provided

Duke Energy recently donated \$1,000 to Shoals School toward the athletic department. Shown above are Kurt Phegley, with Duke Energy and Dr. Candace Roush, superintendent of Shoals Schools.



Grants to 4-H, Shoals Library

-Photos provided

The Martin County 4-H Council received a \$1,182 grant from the Martin County 4-H Fund endowment at the Martin County Community Foundation. Shown above from left to right are Dena Held (Purdue Extension Director), Ellen Dant, John Lindsey, Paula Ringwald, Josh Ausbrooks (4-H President), Kathy Lingenfelter (4-H Treasurer), Trevor Guy, Rhonda Sanders, and Curt Johnson (MCCF Director). The Martin County Community Foundation presented the Shoals Public Library with a grant for \$611 from the Shoals Public Library Fund endowment. Shown in the photo below is Sylvia Albaugh (Shoals Public Library Director) receiving the grant check from Curt Johnson (MCCF Director).



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Making A Difference

By Curt Johnson
MCCF Director



-- BEQUESTS --
I've mentioned bequests before, but now I want to get a little deeper into just what a bequest is and the types of bequests. To start with, a bequest is simply an instruction in your written will that states how to distribute some or all of your estate. The simple "charitable bequest" is the most popular planned gift because it's an easy way to leave a lasting legacy. When you make a charitable bequest, you retain full use of your property during your life, so there is no disruption of your lifestyle and no immediate out-of-pocket cost. You simply direct that part of your estate go to one or more of your favorite charities.

-- TYPES OF BEQUESTS --
You have considerable flexibility since charitable bequests take several forms. You can leave: (1) a specific request which is a gift of a particular asset, such as 100 shares of XYZ Corporation; (2) a percentage request where some part of the value of the distributed estate is gifted; (3) a residual bequest that leaves a gift as the remainder of the estate after all taxes, expenses, and other bequests have been satisfied; or (4) a contingent bequest that is a gift that will be made to a second beneficiary in the event that the original beneficiary is deceased or does not accept the gift.

The type of bequest language that you choose should fit what you want to accomplish. You should think carefully about how your gift can help the person or organization when deciding what bequests to include.

-- WHY A BEQUEST? --
If you do not leave a will and do not make a bequest, you cannot be sure that your property will be distributed as you intend. Without a will, your property will be distributed by a pre-set formula according to government laws, and it is possible that family members, close friends, and worthwhile charities will receive no part of your estate.

Making a will is the only way to be sure that the people and causes you care for will receive your generous gifts. You can designate exactly how you want your charitable bequest to be used or you can leave it to the MCCF "unrestricted" funds so that we have the flexibility to meet our community's ever-changing needs.

While a charitable bequest offers no income tax benefits, it is fully deductible for estate tax purposes if you meet basic requirements. And keep in mind that for estates subject to estate tax, the tax rates are historically higher than income tax rates.

-- CHANGING A BEQUEST --
You can change any bequest provision during your life, which means you stay in complete control of the process. You can amend your will with a codicil (the legal instrument to modify a will) or execute an entirely new will.

It's a good idea to update your will on a regular basis to keep up with changes in laws and your own objectives and concerns. Also, remember that if you decide to leave a specific asset such as a car or a vacation home to a beneficiary in your will, but later you decide to sell or otherwise dispose of the asset, the specific bequest will fail and that beneficiary will receive nothing.

-- ALTERNATIVES --
There are other ways to make a "bequest" type of arrangement without a will. You can make similar beneficiary designations with a life insurance policy, revocable trust or retirement plan. Making a charitable organization the beneficiary of a retirement plan and leaving other assets to loved ones can provide income tax relief for your heirs in addition to other potential estate tax savings.

-- LET US KNOW --
If you wish to make a charitable bequest (or have already done so) to the MCCF, it's important to let us know. We want the opportunity to thank you your commitment and generosity. And to invite you to join our "Legacy Society" to recognize you as a part of a key group of individuals showing concern for Martin County's future needs. We also want to offer our help as you plan your bequest so that you get the most satisfaction out of it. Good planning can magnify the impact of any gift.

-- MORE INFORMATION --
If you or someone you know is interested in a charitable bequest, please contact the MCCF Director, Curt Johnson, at 812-295-1022 or mccf@cfpartner.org.

You can also receive complimentary copies of "Estate Planning Today" and "Personal Financial Affairs: Your Book of Records". These documents will help you prepare for your discussion with your attorney, tax and/or financial advisor.

And we have other documents that can help you with estate planning, wills and bequests, types of gifts, and retirement and personal planning. Contact Curt to find out what documents and information is available.

You are also welcome to visit our webpage at www.cfpartner.org and also to "like" the MCCF Facebook page at www.facebook.com/mcccommunityfoundation.

Indiana State Police partners with DEA for 20th Drug Take Back Day

On Saturday, April 24, 2021 the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) is sponsoring the 20th nationwide "Prescription Drug Take Back" initiative. The "Take Back" initiative seeks to prevent prescription drug abuse and theft through proper disposal of prescription drugs.

Collection sites will be set up nationwide for expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs which will be properly disposed of without threat to the environment. This program is for liquid and pill medications. Vaping pens without batteries and vaping cartridges will also be taken. Needles, new or used, WILL NOT be accepted for disposal. This service is free and anonymous with no questions asked.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescrip-

tion drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet.

In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines—flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash—pose both potential safety and health hazards.

Once again, the Indiana State Police is pleased to partner with the DEA, and as in the past, unwanted medications may be dropped off at any Indiana State Police Post, except the Toll Road Post. The event will be on Saturday, April 24, 2021 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

To locate the State Police post closest to your home or business, visit www.in.gov/isp/2382.htm. To find other locations in Indiana or across the U.S. that are participating in the Drug Take Back initiative, visit www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/index.html.

The Drug Take Back events are the safe, popular and responsible way for the public to legally dispose of prescription drugs with no questions asked.

~LETTER TO THE EDITOR~

'Vouchers divide our communities'
To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

Indiana's largest in the nation school voucher program has pitted public and private schools in previously tightknit communities against each other. Public and private schools that once willingly worked together for the betterment of all students now must weigh decisions based on a competition model. Schools are forced to divert needed resources to marketing and social media campaigns – resources that would otherwise help students. Private schools even utilize official school email to directly promote or oppose legislation, something that would likely cause a massive uproar if conducted by a public school.

While public schools (and students) suffer the most under the voucher system, some private schools are also victims. Many initially resisted accepting vouchers, objecting to government inter-

ference. Most were eventually coerced by unscrupulous politicians and nefarious "school choice" groups. As a result, many legacy donor families ended their contributions and traditional fundraising was replaced by recruiting students for voucher funding. Many are now reliant on the state. Private schools should not depend on taxpayer dollars to educate their students.

Unfortunately, those looking to further divide our communities have proposed a massive voucher expansion in House Bill 1005 and outlined in the House Bill 1001 budget, stripping support from public schools and forcing private schools to become more reliant on the government. Please contact your State Senator and State Representative and ask them to oppose HB1005 and remove the voucher expansion in the budget. Tell your legislators to stop dividing our communities.

John Hurley
Richland, Indiana

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